

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-14 L-03

NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02

DOE-11 INT-05 DOTE-00 FMC-02 CG-00 DLOS-09 /137 W

-----043888 181537Z /44

P R 181445Z JAN 78

FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8228

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 0144

DEPT PLEASE PASS: EPA/OIA FOR OIL AND HAZARDS DIVISION AND EPA/  
EDISON; DOT FOR U.S. COAST GUARD AREA COMMANDERS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, BR

SUBJECT: MAJOR OIL SPILL - PORT SAO SEBASTIAO

REF: STATE 011564

1. THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY/COAST GUARD TEAM DISPATCHED TO SAO SEBASTIAO TO ASSIST IN CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS HAS REPORTED TO THE CONGEN THAT THE OIL SPILL APPEARS TO BE IN THE RANGE OF SIX TO TEN THOUSAND TONS. A FINAL ESTIMATE CANNOT YET BE GIVEN, HOWEVER, UNTIL AERIAL SURVEYS AND SITE VISITS ARE COMPLETED. THE SPILL HAS SPREAD FROM THE POINT OF ORIGIN PAST ILHA GRANDE; MOST OF THE BEACHES IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN AFFECTED TO A GREATER OR LESSER EXTENT. AT THE MOMENT FISH IN THE AREA OF THE SPILL HAVE NOT BEEN AFFECTED, BUT THE TEAM EXPECTS PROBLEMS IN THE FUTURE BECAUSE OIL AFFECTS TASTE OF FISH NORMALLY CAUGHT IN THE AREA. FURTHER INFORMATION SHOULD BE AVAILABLE WHEN TEAM VISITS CONGEN ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, FOR DEBRIEFING.

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2. THE EPA/CG TEAM IS PRESENTLY HELPING TO ORGANIZE CLEAN-UP AND CONTAINMENT OPERATIONS IN THE AREA OF THE OIL SPILL. THESE OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN HAMPERED BY A GENERAL LACK OF NECESSARY EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING BOATS, AND THE INABILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO ORGANIZE AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM. THE TEAM IS CONSIDERING THE BURNING OF OIL ACCUMULATED ON THE BEACHES.

AS A RESULT OF THE DISORGANIZED NATURE OF THE LOCAL CLEAN-UP AND CONTAINMENT PROGRAM, THE TEAM WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF SAO PAULO ON CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR FUTURE OIL SPILLS.

3. TEAM IS STAYING AT THE JANGADA MOTEL IN THE TOWN UBATUBA; TELEPHONE NUMBER: 0124-22-2311.  
CHAPIN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OILS, OIL SPILLS, PORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SAOPA00144  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3753682  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MAJOR OIL SPILL - PORT SAO SEBASTIAO  
**TAGS:** SENV, BR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014